Ministry of
Attorney General and
Minister Responsible for
Treaty Negotiations

2001/02
Annual Report
A New Era Update

BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Ministry of
Attorney General and
Minister Responsible for
Treaty Negotiations

National Library of Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data
British Columbia. Ministry of Attorney General.
[Annual report (2002)]

Annual Report — 2001/2002 - "A new era update".

Continues: British Columbia. Ministry of Attorney General. Annual performance report. ISSN 1499-0210
ISSN 1703-2717 = Annual Report - British Columbia. Ministry of Attorney General (2002)

1. British Columbia. Ministry of Attorney General - Periodicals. 2. British Columbia - Treaty Negotiations Office - Periodicals. 3. Justice, Administration of - British Columbia - Periodicals. 4. Indians of North America - British Columbia - Treaties - Periodicals. 5. Indians of North America - British Columbia - Government relations - Periodicals. I. Title. II. Title: Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations Annual Report.

KEB475.A72B74 353.4'09711'05 C2002-960113-4
KF5106.A6B74

For more information on the British Columbia Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations, contact:

Communications Branch
PO BOX 9282
STN PROV GOVT
VICTORIA, BC
V8W 9J7

or visit the B.C. Government's Web site at
www.gov.bc.ca

Published by the Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations

103-01594/

Introductory Note — A Year of Transition

The Government of British Columbia and its ministries are committed to reporting on performance. The *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act* (BTAA), as amended in August 2001, provides the legislative framework for a regular cycle of planning, reporting and accountability. Under the BTAA, ministries are responsible for producing three-year service plans (previously called performance plans), which are updated yearly, and annual service plan reports (formerly called performance reports). The amended BTAA takes effect beginning with the 2002/03 fiscal year. The first three-year service plans, covering the period 2002/03 to 2004/05, were released with the provincial budget on February 19, 2002.

This annual report relates to the previous fiscal year, covering April 1, 2001, to March 31, 2002. This was a transition year, with a new government sworn into office on June 5, 2001. On that day, there was an extensive reorganization of ministries, which were given significant new policy direction and tasked with the responsibility for implementing the government's *New Era* commitments. Later in the year, ministries proceeded through the core services review, which refined the mandates of ministries and identified the strategic shifts required to move government toward its long-term objectives.

This report provides an update on all that activity and also provides a report on performance, approaching the model provided by the BTAA as closely as is possible in the circumstances. An annual report would normally relate back to a preceding plan and report on the results achieved compared with the intentions outlined in that plan. In this case, the preceding plan was produced before the adoption of the significant changes outlined above, and as noted, this ministry has been significantly reorganized, and policies and priorities have changed. This limits the extent to which performance information as described in the previous plan is useful.

Consequently, this report sets out the ministry's redefined role and the services it provides, and — within the context of its goals and objectives as they evolved through the year — describes the achievements of the ministry and the performance targets being used to measure success.

Accountability Statement

The 2001/2002 Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations Annual Report was prepared under my direction, and I am accountable for the results the ministry achieved since June 5, 2001. This report describes progress made in this first year on the government's *New Era* commitments, which are to be addressed by May 17, 2005.

Honourable Geoff Plant
Attorney General

June 28, 2002

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ministry of Attorney General
and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations

I have the honour of submitting the Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations Annual Report for the fiscal year 2001/02. As a *New Era* update, this report focuses on the period of June 5, 2001, to March 31, 2002.

British Columbia's justice system has entered a time of both challenge and opportunity. We are challenged to maintain and improve our system of justice in the face of fiscal realities that require significant expenditure reductions. In meeting this challenge, I strongly believe that we can find opportunities to make our justice system better.

To achieve this goal, we will be working with our partners in the justice system to implement meaningful reforms. This includes working with the judiciary, with the bar, with community groups and others who have an interest in ensuring that justice is accessible and affordable.

My responsibilities also include the Treaty Negotiations Office. In this past year, we participated in a detailed review of the treaty process which resulted in the development of creative options for change. The work of the Select Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs helped shape the province-wide referendum on treaty principles that will guide B.C.'s approach to treaty negotiations. The outcome will be a clear mandate for provincial negotiators to take to the treaty table to build lasting treaties and new relationships so that all British Columbians, including First Nations, can work together to build hope and prosperity.

This report reflects the first steps we have taken to fulfil our *New Era* commitments. Subsequent reports will detail the ministry's success in implementing the service plan that I signed on January 30, 2002.

Geoff Plant

Honourable Geoff Plant
Attorney General

June 28, 2002

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introductory Note — A Year of Transition

Accountability Statement

Message from the Minister

Year-at-a-Glance Highlights 3

Ministry Role and Services 4

Update on *New Era* Commitments 9

Performance Reporting 16

Report on Resources 32

Appendices 34

Year-at-a-Glance Highlights

- Commenced a drug treatment court pilot in Vancouver in co-operation with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Federal Department of Justice. The pilot provides an alternative to the regular criminal court process for appropriate individuals who have come into conflict with the law and who would not normally seek treatment for their drug dependency.
- Completed the implementation of JUSTIN, an integrated criminal case-tracking computer system with links to police, Crown prosecutors, court services and corrections throughout the province.
- Expanded the use of video-conferencing technology in court proceedings. As of March 2002, there were 59 video-conferencing units in 38 locations across the province.
- Continued to develop an information management system to enhance court security and help manage the safety and security needs of thousands of accused people taken into custody in this province each year.
- Established the Justice Services Branch to better coordinate the design and delivery of justice-related programs, including family justice counsellor services, the Family Maintenance Enforcement Program, the Dispute Resolution Office and legal aid.
- Established a Web site and toll-free telephone enquiry line to provide better access to information on resolving family disputes and making child custody and support decisions for British Columbians going through separation or divorce.
- Implemented a pilot project to allow Provincial Court judges contemplating retirement to elect to serve on a part-time basis before full retirement. The pilot promotes greater flexibility and efficient use of court services while retaining experienced senior judges.
- Launched an independent review of private sector pay equity legislation. The review was completed in February 2002 and the report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly.
- Launched a review of administrative justice agencies to examine fundamental questions about the nature, quality and timeliness of the services that such agencies offer to British Columbians. As a result of the first phase of this review, 33 of the province's 67 administrative justice agencies are being restructured.
- Completed a review of enduring powers of attorney and representation agreements. Government accepted the review's recommendations in principle and began consultations with the public on the detailed recommendations.
- Passed legislation to require the registration of lobbyists to ensure greater transparency and enhance open government.
- Established a fixed provincial election date under the *B.C. Constitution Act*.
- Asked an all-party committee of the Legislative Assembly to consult with British Columbians, including First Nations, to draft the questions for the Referendum on Principles for Treaty Negotiations.
- Participated in a tripartite review on improving the treaty process with First Nations, the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.
- Actively participated in 40 treaty negotiations throughout the province. Completed 17 treaty-related measures and 28 interim measures agreements to support treaty negotiations and enhance economic certainty. Funding for all treaty-related measures is cost-shared with Canada on a 50:50 basis under a cost-sharing memorandum of understanding.

Ministry Role and Services

Ministry Vision, Mission, Values and Goals

Vision

An accessible, responsive, accountable justice system that protects the rights of all citizens, offers a range of affordable, timely and fair ways to resolve disputes, and fosters confidence in the integrity, efficiency and effectiveness of the justice system. The knowledge that government operates lawfully and is building reconciliation through negotiation contributes to the social stability and economic vitality of British Columbia.

Mission

To promote the safety and security of communities (in co-operation with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General); administer an independent, impartial and accessible justice system; facilitate the timely, fair and lasting resolution of civil legal disputes; provide high-quality legal services to government; and, through negotiation, achieve reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples of British Columbia and legal certainty over the ownership and use of Crown land and resources in British Columbia.

Values

The Ministry of Attorney General shares with all government organizations a commitment to affordability, efficiency, timeliness, accountability, innovation and reform, and a healthy, supportive workplace.

In addition, the ministry strives to deliver its unique services in accordance with these values:

- Accessibility
- Independence
- Impartiality and fairness
- Certainty
- Processes that are appropriate to the nature of the dispute
- Respect for the law

Goals

1. Laws and justice services are administered fairly, equitably, and efficiently to all British Columbians, while individual rights and judicial independence are protected
2. Citizens and communities of British Columbia receive protection from crime and its social and economic consequences.
3. High quality legal services are provided to government.
4. Treaty processes are revitalized by means of a referendum, and the investment climate is enhanced through effective negotiations.
5. The efficiency of all Ministry operations is improved through the use of innovative business practices and technology.

Core Business Areas and Programs

Community and Public Safety

A number of ministry program areas contribute to helping ensure the safety of British Columbians. The Criminal Justice Branch conducts criminal prosecutions, which includes making timely decisions about approving criminal charges and making referrals to Alternate Measures programs for appropriate minor offences. The branch also identifies high-risk and violent offenders to the court for appropriate attention. Another important aspect of this business area is the ministry's responsibility, exercised through the Court Services Branch, for providing effective and efficient court administration, including prisoner escort, court security, facility maintenance and courts information.

Social and Economic Stability

The ministry supports the social and economic stability of British Columbia by facilitating the timely and effective resolution of civil and family disputes. The Court Services Branch provides administrative services to the three levels of court that adjudicate these disputes (Provincial Court, Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal). Through the Justice Services Branch, the ministry also encourages out-of-court settlement through mediation and other dispute resolution processes, for example, the requirement for families undergoing separation and divorce to see family justice counsellors. Finally, the ministry promotes procedural and substantive law reform in the province.

Lawful Government

The ministry's Legal Services Branch provides high quality, cost effective legal advice and representation to the Government of British Columbia. This includes advising the government on civil law matters, managing the government's liability costs, and working to reduce the costs of litigation through the use of technology and improved business practices.

Assisting the Vulnerable and Victims

Assisting vulnerable British Columbians is an important part of the ministry's work, requiring co-operative efforts among three separate areas of the ministry: the Justice Services, Criminal Justice, and Legal Services branches. The ministry attempts to accelerate the resolution of child protection cases by supplying trained mediators upon the request of parties to disputes, and is piloting a facilitated planning meeting process to reduce the number of cases that go to contested hearings. The Family Maintenance Enforcement Program focuses on enforcing family maintenance orders for families that are dependent on that maintenance in order to avert the need for B.C. Employment and Assistance support. In criminal law, the ministry's Crown prosecutors use victim impact statements where appropriate at court proceedings.

Independent Judiciary

The ministry supports the continued operation of an independent judiciary through the Court Services Branch. It works with the judiciary on specific projects, specifically the Provincial Court's criminal case flow management process and rules, as well as the Supreme Court's reforms for expedited case processing and electronic justice services.

Aboriginal Negotiation and Litigation

The ministry's Legal Services Branch provides legal services to government on Aboriginal law and negotiation matters.

Statutory, Special Accounts, and Agencies, Boards and Commissions

The ministry provides administrative support to agencies, boards and commissions that have mandates relating to justice and regulatory issues, as well as for specific statutory bodies such as commissions of inquiry.

Corporate Services for Attorney General and Solicitor General

The work of both the Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General is supported by a number of offices that offer corporate services to these two ministries' operations. The services provided to the ministries include: human resources; information technology and management; research and analysis on policy and legislation; financial management and resource analysis; freedom of information, records and privacy; and, ministry planning and program evaluation. In addition, the Investigation, Inspection and Standards Office has statutory authority to conduct investigations and inspections relating to correctional and court services facilities to ensure compliance with legislated standards.

The Treaty Negotiations Office

The ministry's Treaty Negotiations Office has primary responsibility for negotiating and implementing agreements with First Nations in the province. Through treaties and other negotiated agreements, the office represents British Columbians in order to achieve legal certainty and economic stability. This year, the office also provided support to the treaty referendum process.

Core Review Strategic Shifts

Crime rates, private litigation volumes and other social and economic factors create demands upon the justice system and contribute to increasing costs. In addition, unresolved Aboriginal claims continue to create economic uncertainty for the province.

The challenges for the ministry are to ensure that the justice system is accessible, affordable and fair, and, in the context of Aboriginal negotiations, to reach lasting agreements with First Nations that establish legal certainty over land and resources.

To address these challenges, the ministry has undertaken a number of strategic shifts in how it operates. The following shifts will be fully implemented over the course of the ministry's three-year Service Plan:

- Increased reliance on alternate dispute resolution and prevention of civil and family disputes;
- Increased use of out-of-court options such as community-based justice programs for appropriate minor offences;
- Greater use of new technology to improve access to the justice system and reduce operating costs;
- Active management of government's financial risk and liability; and,
- A shift in focus away from complex, comprehensive treaties with First Nations to agreements built over time through the negotiation of land, resource and governance arrangements that respect the diverse interests of First Nations.

Administrative Justice Project

Over the course of many years, government, on behalf of the people of the province, has made an enormous public investment in its system of administrative justice. Today, there are more than 60 administrative justice agencies that affect the everyday life of British Columbians. These agencies are diverse and include the Labour Relations Board, the Human Rights Tribunal, the Commercial Appeals Commission and the Workers' Compensation Board.

The ministry has commenced a thorough and systematic review of administrative justice agencies called the Administrative Justice Project (AJP). The goal of this project is to ensure that administrative agencies meet the needs of the people they serve, that their mandates are current and relevant, and that their administrative processes are open and transparent.

The AJP is examining fundamental questions about the nature, quality and timeliness of the services that administrative agencies offer to people and their communities. For example, the AJP:

- is reviewing the mandates of the province's administrative agencies to ensure they are relevant to a modern and efficient economy;
- is making recommendations to eliminate overlapping jurisdictions and multiple proceedings;
- is making recommendations to streamline administrative procedures; and,
- is making recommendations for government to support the work of administrative agencies in an appropriate and effective way.

The AJP is a major initiative and the first of its kind in British Columbia. There are several key phases of the project, including the release of a White Paper in July 2002.

Fit to Government Strategic Plan

The government-wide strategic plan provides the broad framework within which individual ministries pursue their goals. The vision outlined in the government's strategic plan is of a prosperous and just province whose citizens achieve their potential and are confident about the future.

The approach of the Ministry of Attorney General is consistent with the government's strategic plan. The ministry has incorporated relevant goals and objectives into its planning process, and has adopted measures to gauge its success in meeting them. Specifically, the government's strategic plan calls for a fair and efficient justice system. The Administrative Justice Project is one important component of achieving this goal. In addition, the ministry will measure its success in providing such a system by, among other things, tracking the average number of court appearances per criminal case, as well as the rate of small claims settlements that are reached through dispute resolution.

The government's strategic plan also sets a goal of safe communities in British Columbia, which the ministry will measure by monitoring personal and property crime rates. Finally, all ministries are mandated to establish effective working relationships with First Nations; the ministry plans to achieve this by undertaking meaningful negotiations on specific issues, such as land and resource ownership, that are important to First Nations and all British Columbians.

Planning Context

A number of social factors affect the ability of the ministry to realize its vision. The most significant of these are:

- Although British Columbia continues to have one of the highest crime rates in Canada, reported crime rates in both the province and the rest of Canada have declined over the past several years. Crime rates are affected by the interaction of a number of social, demographic and economic factors. Ministry efforts in the family justice area — such as early resolution of family disputes, mandatory referrals to family justice counsellors in divorce or separation cases, and an improved collection process for child support payments — assist in protecting youth at risk and may help deter crimes related to family hardship. A newly established drug treatment court provides court-supervised intervention and rehabilitation services to adult drug offenders.
- British Columbia's population is growing, is increasingly litigious, and includes a rising number of international immigrants who frequently require language services and who may be unfamiliar with the structure and principles of the justice system.
- Family law (divorce, child custody, access, support and protection) has had to evolve rapidly to keep up with changes in family structure and dynamics. As a result, family court consumes a larger share of in-court and out-of-court resources than ever before.
- Aboriginal people in British Columbia continue to be significantly over-represented in all aspects of the justice system as both offenders and victims. A high youth population and difficult social conditions in Aboriginal communities contribute to this situation.
- Unresolved Aboriginal claims have created economic uncertainty over the ownership and use of Crown land and resources.
- Court cases are becoming increasingly complex, requiring analysis of large volumes of technical evidence, more expert witnesses, and consideration of international laws and human rights.
- Criminal court backlogs have been reduced but are a continuing concern.
- The public appears to favour both strict sentences for violent offenders and crime prevention and alternatives to incarceration for less serious offences.
- The need for linked information systems across separate justice system components continues. British Columbia has already made considerable progress in linking police, Crown, courts, and adult and youth corrections through two electronic information systems: JUSTIN and CORNET.

Update on *New Era* Commitments

Key Projects

The Premier's Office identified four key projects for the Ministry of Attorney General to be completed by May 17, 2005. These are listed below, showing the progress made on each since June 5, 2001.

Project	Progress
Lay out a program to examine the current status of Aboriginal negotiations and a strategy to move forward.	• The Treaty Negotiations Office completed a preliminary tripartite review of the treaty process with a view to revitalizing negotiations. • The office is proceeding with tripartite discussions on detailed options to revitalize the treaty process, including undertaking a table-by-table analysis to determine the most appropriate subsequent steps. • A strategy for moving forward will be based on options developed in the tripartite review, individual table assessments, and a review of referendum outcomes.
Complete a review of adjudicative agencies and make recommendations.	• The first phase of the core review of administrative agencies has been completed. This phase examined fundamental questions about the nature, quality and timeliness of the services that these agencies offered to British Columbians. The next phase, which looks at how the newly structured agencies can best deliver their services, is in progress. • A White Paper will be released in July 2002.
Establish a Citizen's Assembly and assess models for electoral reform. *This item also appears in greater detail as a New Era Agenda priority.*	• At March 31, 2002, planning on this project was under way.
Review the *Election Act*.	• Amending legislation will be introduced in May 2002.

New Era Agenda Priorities

Responsibility for the *New Era* priorities shown below was assigned to the Ministry of Attorney General. Most of these priorities are to be addressed by May 17, 2005. This section describes the progress made from June 5, 2001, to March 31, 2002 on each priority. The first two commitments also appeared on the government's 90-day agenda, and both were accomplished well ahead of the September 3, 2001 deadline.

Priority	Progress
Appoint an independent task force to review the options, models, costs and effectiveness of private sector pay equity legislation and make recommendations to the legislature.	• As part of the 90-day agenda, a task force review was launched August 14, 2001. • The Report of the Task Force on Pay Equity was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 7, 2002.
Establish a fixed provincial election date under the *BC Constitution Act*.	• As part of the 90-day agenda, legislation to establish fixed provincial election dates was enacted on August 20, 2001. Under the amendments to the *BC Constitution Act*, the next provincial election will be held Tuesday, May 17, 2005, and after that, on the second Tuesday in May every four years. • The legislation provides for an immediate election in the event of the government losing a confidence vote, with the next election being held four years later.
Fight child prostitution and youth crime with specific legislation aimed at providing greater protection to children at risk and greater parental responsibility for children who commit property crimes.	• A new *Crime Victim Assistance Act*, introduced by the Solicitor General, will be brought into force in summer of 2002. The Act will provide greater protection to children at risk of exploitation through enhanced counselling benefits and new protective measures for sexually-exploited youth. • Discussions are under way with the Solicitor General and Ministry of Children and Family Development on ways to fight child prostitution. • The *Parental Responsibility Act* has been in force since January 1, 2002. Solicitor General has responsibility for this legislation.

Priority	Progress
Pass a *Domestic Violence Act* that will enhance protection and reduce domestic violence, especially for women and children.	• A cross-jurisdictional review is under way with the ministries of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services to examine policy, programs and legislative responses to crimes of domestic violence. • A new *Crime Victim Assistance Act*, introduced by the Solicitor General, will be brought into force in summer of 2002. The Act will provide greater protection to children at risk of exploitation through enhanced counselling benefits and new protective measures for sexually-exploited youth.
Stand up for the equality of all Canadians and all provinces under the Canadian Constitution.	• All legislation is vetted by the Ministry of Attorney General.
Ensure that all B.C. laws respect the equality rights guaranteed to all British Columbians under the Constitution.	• All legislation is vetted by the Ministry of Attorney General.
Ensure all British Columbians have equal access to legal representation and justice.	• The Ministry of Attorney General is participating in the Justice Review Task Force. The task force is comprised of senior representatives from the ministry, the B.C. Supreme Court, the B.C. Provincial Court, the Law Society and the Canadian Bar Association. Its objective is to explore a wide range of reform ideas and initiatives aimed at enhancing access to justice and increasing the efficiency of the justice system. Task force participants will engage in mutual consultation respecting proposed administrative, procedural or program changes, and will co-ordinate initiatives where appropriate. • The Legal Services Society is implementing a new and sustainable service delivery model of 7 regional offices and 24 local agents, supported by a provincewide, toll-free telephone intake system, to safeguard the provision of core legal aid services.

Priority	Progress
Hold the line on court fees to ensure that everyone has affordable access to our justice system.	• Court fees have not increased.
Give all British Columbians a say on the principles that should guide B.C.'s approach to treaty negotiations and a one-time provincewide referendum.	• B.C. Referendum Office was established March 18, 2002. • A provincewide referendum was initiated.
Ask an all-party committee of the legislature to consult with British Columbians, including First Nations, to draft the referendum questions.	• Select Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs was tasked on August 27, 2001, with carrying out the consultation and making recommendations on issues related to the referendum questions. • Public hearings were held in 15 communities in all geographic areas of the province; 344 oral and written submissions were received; 482 people and organizations were heard. • Committee report and recommendations for questions were submitted to the Legislative Assembly November 30, 2001. • Referendum questions were approved by the Legislative Assembly on March 15, 2002.
Protect private property rights and prevent government from expropriating assets without fair compensation.	• Priority will be addressed by Principles 1 and 2 in the Referendum on Treaty Principles. Outcome of the referendum will be known in summer 2002. • Policy options will be developed to meet this priority.
Fully protect private property rights and resource tenure rights in treaty negotiations.	• This is in progress as part of the negotiations process, and is included as one of the proposed referendum principles.

Priority	Progress
Insist on equal, non-discriminatory voting rights for all Canadians in respect of governments that rule their lives.	• This priority will be addressed by Principle 6 in the Referendum on Treaty Principles. Outcome of the referendum will be known in summer 2002. • Policy options will be developed to meet this priority.
Work to ensure that all Aboriginal governments have the same legal status in B.C. as they do in every other province.	• Models of governance have been researched and are under development.
Work to expedite interim measures agreements with First Nations to provide greater certainty during treaty talks.	• Work is in progress through the negotiation process. • The province has entered into 28 interim measures agreements, at a cost of $2.6 million, to increase Aboriginal participation in the provincial economy.
Fast track treaty talks to conclude fair settlements.	• Recommendations for revitalizing the treaty process and achieving agreements have resulted from the tripartite review of the treaty process. • Focus will be on staged agreements leading to treaty settlements. • B.C. and Canada are pursuing a series of treaty-related measures to address First Nations' concerns about the availability of land and resources for treaties. • Seventeen new treaty-related measures were entered into; ten treaty-related measures were continued from the previous year; two treaty-related measures are being actively negotiated.
Offer to negotiate a delegated, municipal style of self-government with any First Nation that wants to move beyond the *Indian Act*.	• Letter sent June 2001 from the Premier to all First Nations, offering to negotiate a delegated municipal style of self-government with any First Nation in B.C. • Specific instructions to negotiators will flow from analysis of voter response to the referendum principle on this issue.

Priority	Progress
Seek clear direction from the Supreme Court of Canada on constitutional questions about Aboriginal self-government.	• A decision has been made not to pursue litigation on these questions at this time. The province will consider participating in litigation when an appropriate case arises that involves these issues.
Introduce a legislative framework for legally respecting Aboriginal rights protected under the Constitution in the absence of treaties.	• Implementation of this commitment is under consideration with particular attention to recent court decisions that may affect the province's ability to enact such a framework.
Amend the recall and initiative legislation and make it more workable for British Columbians to hold MLAs more accountable and initiate referendums on issues of provincewide concern.	• Planning is under way.
Appoint a Citizens' Assembly for Electoral Reform that will be responsible for assessing all possible models for electing MLAs, including proportional representation, preferential ballots and first past the post.	• Planning is under way.
Citizens' Assembly will hold public hearings throughout B.C. and if it recommends changes to the electoral system, that option will be put to provincewide referendum.	• Planning is under way.

Priority	Progress
Ban all non-essential government advertising in the four-month period prior to the fixed election date to prevent any opportunity for partisan abuse of taxpayer-funded advertising.	• This commitment will be honoured by government during the 2005 election campaign.
Amend the *Election Act* to eliminate loopholes on disclosures of financial contributions to political parties to include donations of labour, as required in municipal elections.	• Amending legislation is planned for 2002.
Repeal the law that restricts third-party advertising during election campaigns.	• Amending legislation is planned for 2002.
Outlaw donations from charities to political parties.	• Amending legislation is planned for 2002.

Performance Reporting

Overview

This section of the report identifies the objectives and strategies for each core business area of the Ministry of Attorney General. It provides information on the performance measures that indicate the ministry's progress in achieving its goals and objectives.

The measures included in this section may be augmented and improved in future. The previous fiscal year of April 1, 2001, to March 31, 2002, was a transition year during which ministries were reorganized, given significant new policy direction, and tasked with the responsibility of implementing the government's *New Era* commitments. As a result, many of the performance measures reported below are new. Others are still under development and will be added as Service Plans are updated.

For each performance measure in this section, information is given for the reporting period of June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002, providing an update on activities since June 5, 2001. The status of each performance measure is also reported, including where possible, trend data for the comparable approximately ten-month period of the previous fiscal year. This provides the most accurate comparisons by accounting for seasonal fluctuations in caseloads and counts.

Completed or continuing activities designed to meet ministry goals, business area objectives and strategies, and to inform the performance measures are identified as well.

Selection of Measures

The performance measures reported below fall into three categories.

- **Output Measures** represent the level of service provided by a program in attempting to achieve certain results.
- **Outcome Measures** focus on the desired results of government actions.
- **Efficiency Measures** relate to the costs of achieving successful outcomes.

All performance measures were reviewed in terms of several selection criteria. Before measures were approved, they had to meet the following four criteria.

- **Comprehensiveness:** The measures should cover all core business areas of the ministry where the ministry is trying to achieve results.
- **Understandability:** The measures should be clear and easily understood by the public, and should sufficiently explain how performance is being assessed.
- **Relevance:** The measures should provide information to help the ministry make better decisions.
- **Reliability:** The data used to inform the measures should be unbiased, complete and error-free.

Principal Data Sources

The Ministry of Attorney General strives to provide accurate and reliable data and continually endeavours to improve data quality and to strengthen the ministry's performance reporting.

One significant initiative recently completed was the provincewide rollout of JUSTIN, an integrated justice case tracking computer system with links to all members of the criminal justice system (police, Crown, judiciary, courts and corrections). As of July 2001, JUSTIN was installed in approximately 400 offices throughout the province, replacing all of the separate and non-linked case tracking systems previously used.

The benefits of JUSTIN include: greater use of common data definitions; improved statistical and management information; the ability to identify opportunities for establishing provincial standards and best practices; security and audit trails; and, increased public safety as a result of information availability.

Other data sources include surveys, published studies and reports, program-specific documents and electronic records, and in some cases, direct client feedback.

Core Business Areas and Performance Measures

Core Business Area: Community and Public Safety	
Objective: Strategies	**PROCESS CRIMINAL CASES IN A TIMELY AND EFFICIENT MANNER WITHIN THREE LEVELS OF COURT** • Conduct timely charge assessments of allegations of criminal offences and timely criminal prosecutions • Increase appropriate referrals to Alternate Measures programs • Comply with criminal case flow management rules and Crown best business practices • Provide efficient, effective court administration, prisoner escort and court security support • Expand use of technology and innovative processes in the court system • Reform processes for handling disputed bylaw and traffic offences • Allocate legal aid resources proportional to the complexity and seriousness of the offence
Objective: Strategy:	**PROTECT THE COMMUNITY FROM HIGH-RISK AND VIOLENT OFFENDERS** • Make dangerous offender, long term offender and recognizance applications when appropriate

Performance Measures:	Actual June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002	Status
Output Measures		
# of locations and hours for criminal sittings at all levels of court	99 locations 68 staffed 86,191 hours	• The number of hours for criminal sittings decreased to 86,191 during the reporting period, from 93,475 hours during the same approximately 10-month period in the previous year
# of allegations of criminal offences assessed by provincial Crown prosecutors	76,137	• There are no comprehensive provincewide data prior to July 2001
# of criminal cases concluded in all levels of court	105,218	• The number of criminal cases concluded increased to 105,218 during the reporting period, from 103,855 cases during the same approximately 10-month period in the previous year
# of bylaw and traffic disputes concluded in provincial court	95,296	• The number of bylaw and traffic disputes concluded increased to 95,296, from 86,100 disputes during the same approximately 10-month period in the previous year
# of dangerous offender applications made	11	• The number of dangerous offender applications decreased to 11 from 20 during the same approximately 10-month period in the previous year
# of video conferencing units at courts and correctional centres	59	• The number of units changed as new installations were completed throughout the year • The provincial judiciary supports this initiative to promote access and reduce costs

[1] Courts and Crown have no control over the number of, or nature of, new cases entering the justice system

[2] As of March 31, 2002, there are 99 court locations that hear criminal cases. 96 of these hear civil and family cases. Sixty-eight of these locations are staffed

Outcome Measures		
% of accused persons eligible for Alternate Measures (AM) who are referred to AM	To be determined	• The Criminal Justice Branch has published the branch performance plan. A committee is currently in the process of defining the performance measures for the branch, one of which is this measure.

Efficiency Measures		
% of charge assessments completed per standard time period	To be determined	• The Criminal Justice Branch has published the branch performance plan. A committee is currently in the process of defining the performance measures for the branch, one of which is this measure.
% of criminal cases (excluding traffic) completed within 8 months *	72%	• The percentage of criminal cases (excluding traffic) completed within 8 months increased to 72% during the reporting period, from 69% during the same approximately 10 month period in the previous year.
Average # of appearances per completed case in provincial court	5.57	• The average number of appearances per completed case decreased to 5.57 during the reporting period, from 5.65 during the same approximately 10 month period in the previous year.

* Approximately 85% of criminal cases are initiated and prosecuted by provincial Crown Counsel

Core Business Area: Social and Economic Stability	
Objective: Strategies:	**SUPPORT OPERATION OF THREE LEVELS OF COURT IN RESOLVING CIVIL AND FAMILY DISPUTES** • Provide efficient, effective registry operations, court administration and court security support • Expand use of technology and innovative processes to facilitate case processing and disposition
Objective: Strategies:	**PROMOTE OUT-OF-COURT DISPUTE RESOLUTION OPTIONS WITHIN THE CIVIL/FAMILY JUSTICE SYSTEM** • Support public access to out of court services to resolve family justice issues • Create mechanisms to encourage or require disputes to go to mediation and other dispute resolution processes • Reduce demand for court services through dispute resolution services and mandatory referral to family justice counsellors for families undergoing separation and divorce • Reduce court hearing time by making recommendations on contested child access and custody cases • Support public access to mediation with trained mediators to resolve civil justice disputes

Performance Measures:	Actual June 5, 2001* to March 31, 2002	Status
Output Measures		
# of locations and hours for civil and family sittings at all levels of court	96 locations 68 staffed 59,859 hours	• The number of locations and the number of staffed locations remain unchanged from the previous fiscal year. • The number of hours for civil and family sittings decreased to 59,859 hours during the reporting period, from 62,417 hours during the same approximately 10 month period in the previous year.
# of Family Justice Centres (FJCs)	30	• Unchanged from previous fiscal year.
# of communities served by FJCs	56	• Unchanged from previous fiscal year.
# of locations of FJCs with mandatory referral to family justice counselling services	6	• An additional Family Justice Centre was opened in Kelowna, increasing the number of locations from 5 in the previous fiscal year.
# of mediators on B.C. mediation roster	125	• Increase of 8 from the previous fiscal year.

* As of March 31, 2002, there are 99 court locations that hear criminal cases; 96 of these hear civil and family cases. Sixty-eight of these locations are staffed.

Outcome Measures		
% of scheduled court events for which staff are available	100%	• Unchanged from previous fiscal year.
% of small claims disputes settled through out-of court dispute resolution options in 4 sites	60%[2]	• Unchanged from previous fiscal year.
Mean rate of satisfaction with civil dispute resolution processes in 4 sites (1 = very dissatisfied; 5 = very satisfied)	4.4[3]	• Unchanged from previous fiscal year.

[1] This measure is derived from early results at two sites only.

[2] This measure is derived from a user satisfaction survey administered as part of the Small Claims Mediation Practicum Project.

Core Business Area: Lawful Government	
Objective: Strategies:	**PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY LEGAL SERVICES TO MINISTRIES AND GOVERNMENT** • Use client satisfaction survey results to improve the legal services delivered • Increase use of dispute resolution in litigation
Objective:	**ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON CRIMINAL LAW MATTERS**
Objective: Strategies:	**DELIVER LEGAL SERVICES AS COST-EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE** • Reduce litigation costs through technology and re-engineered business processes • Adopt more cost-effective service delivery models • Ensure that cost of legal services is competitive with other comparable public sector organizations • Develop policies and procedures in respect of new ways to administer criminal justice in British Columbia • Encourage efficiency by increasing client ministry accountability for legal services expenditures
Objective: Strategies:	**REDUCE THE PROVINCE'S EXPOSURE TO CIVIL LIABILITY AND CONTROL LIABILITY COSTS TO GOVERNMENT** • Improve existing risk-management practices, and introduce additional risk management measures • Improve the effectiveness of litigation management
Objective: Strategies:	**RESPOND TO CLIENTS' CHANGING NEEDS FOR LEGAL SERVICES** • Improve the memorandum of understanding process with clients and develop appropriate levels of service • Provide client training in legal services • Use technology to provide current information and advice on emerging issues

Performance Measures:	Actual June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002	Status
Output Measures		
# of legal years of services provided (legal counsel, legal assistants, students — internal and external)	218	• A legal year is calculated as 1,465 hours; this standard is currently under review.
Implementation of technology initiatives	One project completed; one program in implementation phase	• The Document Management System has been implemented. The system is designed to manage the collection of research documents for Aboriginal litigation and to manage large-scale cases where document volumes are high. • The Practice Management System design and acquisition of technology have been completed; implementation will be completed in fiscal year 2002/03. This is a new system to track and manage cases and to provide management information.
# of legal person years involved in providing advice to the government on criminal law matters	To be determined	• The Criminal Justice Branch has published the branch performance plan. A committee is currently in the process of defining the performance measures for the branch, one of which is this measure.
Outcome Measures		
% of clients satisfied with services	91%	• A follow-up survey is planned for fiscal year 2002/03.

Efficiency Measures		
Blended average hourly cost of internal and external services	$110 per hour	• This measure is based on actual hours and outside counsel expenditures for fiscal year 2001/02.
Cost of legal services as compared with other jurisdictions	Base rate = $110 per hour. External rates to be determined	• A study to establish benchmarks for rates in other jurisdictions will be conducted in late 2002/03.

Core Business Area: Assisting the Vulnerable and Victims	
Objective: Strategy	**Strengthen enforcement of family maintenance orders to reduce demand for BC Employment and Assistance** • Focus program resources on assigned cases from the Ministry of Human Resources and on families who are dependent on maintenance to avert the need for BC Employment and Assistance
Objective: Strategies	**Expedite the resolution of child protection cases** • Provide funding for efficient delivery of legal services • Provide early settlement opportunities for child protection cases • Provide trained mediators for all voluntary child protection mediation requests • Establish a facilitated planning meeting process to reduce the proportion of child protection cases that go to contested hearings
Objective: Strategies	**Support access to justice for victims of violence and other vulnerable persons** • Continue funding focused legal services for protection orders • Provide public information and education • Monitor legal aid resources for cost-effectiveness • Maximize the appropriate use of victim impact statements/information at sentencing

Performance Measures	Actual June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002	Status
Output Measures		
# of family maintenance enforcement orders assigned from Ministry of Human Resources (MHR)	12,391 assigned cases	• There was a monthly average of 12,391 cases assigned from MHR. It is anticipated that this number will decline due to a lower rate of referrals from MHR.
% of voluntary child protection cases for which trained mediators are available	100%	• Trained mediators for child protection cases remain available to all clients.
% of victim impact statements/informations received that are used at sentencing Since the person who enters the data into the system is unlikely to be in court at the time of sentencing, it is known that some actual presentations in court are not entered into the data pool.	60%	• The *Victim of Crime Act* (VOCA) requires that victims be given the opportunity to make a victim impact statement at the time of sentencing (conviction). As a result of consistent under reporting of the actual presentations in court, this measure shows the minimum proportion of victim impact statements that are used at sentencing.
Outcome Measures		
Rate of child support payments received through enforcement	$0.79 on each dollar due	• The rate of child support payments received through enforcement was $0.79 during the reporting period, compared with the forecasted $0.78.
Efficiency Measures		
Cost of collection of family maintenance per dollar recovered	$0.10	• The cost of collection of family maintenance per dollar recovered was $0.10 during the reporting period, compared with the forecasted $0.11.

Core Business Area: Independent Judiciary	
Objective: Strategies	**PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY**[1] • Support the Provincial Court's criminal case flow management process and rules, and any initiatives aimed at improving case flow management • Support the Provincial Court's justice centre • Support the independent Judicial Compensation Committee process • Support the independent Judicial Justice of the Peace Compensation Committee process • Support the Supreme Court's reforms for expedited case processing and electronic justice services • Support judicial initiatives respecting improved trial scheduling

Performance Measures	Actual June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002	Status [2]
Output Measures		
Provincial Court sitting hours	98,546	• Provincial Court sitting hours decreased to 98,546 during the reporting period, from 104,678 hours during the same approximately 10-month period in the previous year
Supreme Court sitting hours	45,410	• Supreme Court sitting hours decreased to 45,410 during the reporting period, from 48,996 hours during the same approximately 10-month period in the previous year
Court of Appeal sitting hours	2,094	• Court of Appeal sitting hours decreased to 2,094 during the reporting period, from 2,218 hours during the same approximately 10-month period in the previous year

[1] There are currently 145 Provincial Court Judges, 100 Supreme Court Justices, 14 Masters and 20 Court of Appeal Justices in B.C.

[2] The ministry supports the judiciary primarily through providing registry operations, court administration, prisoner escort and court security. Actual court hours depend upon the volumes and characteristics of incoming cases. Sitting hours include only judges' time spent in hearings or trials, not pre- and post-court activities.

Core Business Area: Aboriginal Negotiation and Litigation	
Objective: Strategies:	**Provide high-quality legal services in Aboriginal law matters** • Use client satisfaction survey results to improve the legal services delivered • Increase use of dispute resolution in litigation
Objective: Strategies:	**Deliver legal services as cost-effectively as possible** • Use technology and re-engineered business processes to reduce costs • Adopt more cost effective service delivery models

Performance Measures:	Actual June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002	Status
Output Measures		
Legal years of service provided for Aboriginal law matters (lawyers, legal assistants, researchers — internal and external)	34	• A legal year is calculated as 1,465 hours; this standard is currently under review.
# of cases using alternate dispute resolution	To be determined	• Information will be available following implementation of Practice Management System technology, a new system to track and manage cases and to provide management information. • Implementation of the system will be complete by the end of fiscal year 2002/03.
Implementation of technology initiatives	Project complete	• The implementation of document management technology is complete. • The system is designed to manage the collection of research documents for Aboriginal litigation and to manage large-scale cases where document volumes are high.
Outcome Measures		
% of clients satisfied with services	To be determined	• **A specific measure for Aboriginal law/litigation is not currently available; however, a baseline measure will be obtained through a client survey to be conducted during fiscal year 2002/03.**
Efficiency Measures		
Blended average hourly cost of internal and external services	$101	• The rate is lower than the average rate for the Legal Services Branch as Aboriginal litigation uses a higher ratio of legal assistants and researchers in its staff.

Core Business Area: Statutory, Special Accounts and Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABCs)	
Objective: Strategies:	**PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE AND POLICY SUPPORT TO MINISTRY AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS** • Manage appointment process for agencies, boards and commissions associated with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Ministry of Attorney General • Manage historical database for Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Ministerial Order and Order in Council appointments • Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of ABCs in reaching their program objectives
Objective: Strategy:	**PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR ALL COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY, INTERMITTENT COMMITTEES, AND SPECIAL PROJECTS** • Provide contract management, logistical and administrative support for identified statutory bodies (e.g., commissions of inquiry, Electoral Boundaries Commission, Judicial Compensation Committee) and to major project initiatives such as the Administrative Justice Project and the Pay Equity Task Force

Performance Measures:	Actual June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002	Status
Outcome Measures		
% of appointment vacancies filled	89%	• The measure reported here will establish a baseline for future comparisons. • Some appointments were delayed while the core services review was completed.
Efficiency Measures		
% of appointment packages sent to minister at least one month before expiry	82%	• The measure reported here will establish a baseline for future comparisons.
% of contracts in place within 30 days of direction to contract	90%	• The measure reported here will establish a baseline for future comparisons.
% of invoices processed within 60 days of receipt	96%	• The measure reported here will establish a baseline for future comparisons.

Core Business Area: Corporate Services for Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General[1]	
Objective: Strategies	**SUPPORT THE OPERATIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MINISTRIES AND THEIR ASSOCIATED AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS** • Provide administrative, research, analytical and business planning support • Review appeals, investigate complaints and inspect corrections and court services facilities to ensure compliance with standards, policies, legislation and regulations • Develop secure and effective operational and management information systems, and improve access to electronic information • Ensure that staff are well trained and that key positions and appointments are filled • Provide financial management services and resource analysis • Protect personal privacy while providing public access to records
Objective: Strategies	**PROVIDE CORPORATE POLICY AND SECRETARIAT SERVICES TO MINISTERS AND DEPUTIES** • Provide policy analysis and advice on inter-ministerial and inter-governmental developments in criminal, civil and family justice, human rights, administrative law, consumer protection and justice statistics initiatives • Represent the province at federal-provincial-territorial tables addressing justice and human rights issues • Respond to inquiries from MLAs and the public
Objective: Strategies:	**PREPARE FOR AND MANAGE STRATEGIC SHIFTS IN PROGRAMS AND POLICIES** • Develop policy, legislative and implementation plans associated with the core review, the Administrative Justice Project, *New Era* commitments and broad government directions • Monitor the performance of all programs and the ministries' progress towards long-term goals • Ensure that staff are supported and transitions to new organizational structures proceed smoothly • Restructure the human rights system and agencies that oversee government services to children and youth • Develop and enact private law and civil liability reforms

Performance Measures:	Actual June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002	Status
Output Measures		
FIGARO application implemented	Initiation and requirements gathering	• The project is in progress and has moved into the development phase of the systems development lifecycle. • It is anticipated that the application will move into the testing phase with implementation scheduled for later in the 2002/03 fiscal year.
Interface between the PRIME BC and JUSTIN applications implemented	Initiation and requirements gathering	• A contractor has been selected to begin development of the interface between the PRIME BC system and JUSTIN. • It is anticipated that testing will begin in July 2002 with implementation scheduled for later in the 2002/03 fiscal year.
# of completed investigations of complaints regarding corrections and courts facilities	554	• The number of completed investigations of complaints increased to 554 during the reporting period, from 485 during the same approximately 10 month period in the previous fiscal year.

[1] Since effective and efficient Corporate Services are prerequisites for achieving success in all business areas, the key performance measures for Corporate Services are those associated with strategies found throughout the Service Plans of both ministries. The additional measures shown here are meant to help the reader understand the nature and scope of activities under the heading of Corporate Services.

Plain language modernization of the *Residential Tenancy Act* implemented	In progress	• The ministry redrafted the Act and posted major policy issues on the Internet in early December 2001 for stakeholder and public input (1,500 submissions were received) • Consultations with key stakeholder groups were held in December 2001 and January 2002. • Redrafting of the Act is under way, taking the submissions received and government policy direction into account.
Provision to encourage parental responsibility for children who commit property crimes	Complete	• The *Parental Responsibility Act* has been in force since January 2002.
Reduction in regulatory requirements for businesses, the public and government	MAG — reduction of 7 requirements; MPSSG — reduction of 589 requirements[2]	• Additional plans are under way to further identify and reduce unnecessary regulatory requirements.
# of memoranda of understanding (MOUs) in place to enhance ministry accountability for agencies, boards and commissions	0	• Implementation delayed due to core service review.
Elections Act reforms enacted	In progress	• Amending legislation planned for 2002.
Administrative Justice Project results implemented	In progress	• The ministry reviewed 67 administrative justice agencies and examined fundamental questions about the nature, quality and timeliness of services that these agencies offered. As a result of the first phase of this review, 33 of the 67 agencies are being restructured. • A White Paper will be released in July 2002.
Development of private law reform program	In progress	• A framework has been prepared for and approved by the Attorney General.
Civil liability reform	In progress	• A consultation paper and questionnaire have been issued with a deadline for public comment of October 1, 2002. • Some consultation with stakeholders has been held and further consultations are planned. • Legislation planned for 2003.

[1] Corporate Services is responsible for deregulation in both the Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

[2] These figures are based on figures published by the Deregulation Office. These figures as well as the original count numbers are under review.

Treaty Negotiations Office

Core Business Area: Negotiations and Implementation	
Objective: Strategies:	**Clarify Aboriginal rights and title to establish greater legal certainty** • Following the referendum, develop negotiation options and models that allow for choice on how to deal with the land question, reach agreement with Canada and First Nations • Following the referendum, develop a policy framework for practical governance arrangements for First Nations
Objective: Strategies:	**Support government's major economic priorities** • Engage First Nations in economic opportunities (oil and gas exploration and development, 2010 Olympic Bid, forestry, Central Coast initiatives) • Facilitate public/private partnerships between First Nations, business, and local government • Implement proactive strategy to address First Nations disputes
Objective: Strategies:	**Enhance public support for government's approach to treaty-making** • Analyze and implement referendum results • Deal fairly with legal interests impacted by negotiations • Consult with local governments and stakeholders
Objective: Strategies:	**Fulfil obligations arising from treaty settlements and other negotiated agreements** • Ensure Treaty Negotiations Office obligations are met within established timelines and support line agencies in meeting their obligations • Implement Nisga'a Final Agreement Adjustment Project

Performance Measures:	Actual June 5, 2001 to March 31, 2002	Status
Output Measures		
# of significant treaty related agreements	To be determined	• The performance target is to complete 3 to 4 agreements in fiscal year 2002/03. • The parameters for defining significant treaty-related agreements are under development.
# of agreements focusing on economic priorities	To be determined	• Funding for agreements is contingent on approval of the business plan for the Economic Measures Fund. • This is a new initiative; there are no baseline data.
# of First Nations engaged in governance negotiations	To be determined	• The provincial approach to governance negotiations will be guided by the outcome of the related referendum principles. • This is a new approach; there are no baseline data.
# of consultation meetings held with local governments and stakeholders on key issues	To be determined	• The approach to consultation changed due to elimination of provincial funding for advisory committees. The new approach is more limited and focused, operating on an as needed basis. • A data collection process is to be established.
# of First Nations citizens engaged in training opportunities	To be determined	• Training opportunities are dependent on approval of the Economic Measures Fund. • A new data collection process is to be established.

Outcome Measures		
Negotiated agreements reflect referendum principles	To be determined	• This measure is pending outcome of the public response to the referendum principles.
Incidence of rights or title litigation	15	• This measure represents the number of cases where a writ or petition was filed or served.
Incidence of direct action/blockades	38	• These range from acts of civil disobedience to criminal acts; 25 of these incidents took place at Sun Peaks.

Report on Resources

It is required that financial information for this report be organized according to the Estimates that were presented to the Legislative Assembly on July 30, 2001. The Ministry's core business areas were established after that date. Therefore, the information below is not presented according to the core business areas described earlier in this report. All figures below have been rounded. Any discrepancy in the totals may be due to rounding.

	Estimated[1]	Other Authorizations[2]	Total	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses ($000)					
Minister's Office	418	0	418	396	22
Corporate Services	46,863	9,157	56,020	55,495	526
Court Services	137,979	3,424	141,403	143,045	(1,642)
Legal Services	25,593	1,430	27,023	27,404	(381)
Criminal Justice	82,063	280	82,343	79,271	3,072
Justice Services	106,064	16,540	122,604	124,974	(2,370)
Agencies, Boards & Commissions	19,604	1,011	20,615	19,843	772
Treaty Negotiations Office	45,535	0	45,535	25,179	20,356
Statutory Services	33,008	0	33,008	5,683	27,325
Judiciary	45,621	4,141	49,762	49,762	0
Special Account – Public Guardian & Trustee of BC	9,614	(56)	9,558	9,558	0
Total	**552,362**	**35,928**	**588,290**	**540,609**	**47,681[3]**

[1] The "Estimated" amount corresponds to the Estimates as presented to the Legislative Assembly on July 30, 2001.

[2] "Other Authorizations" represent funding from the Contingencies (all ministries) and New Programs vote approved by Treasury Board on March 20, 2002.

[3] The ministry is required to ensure that actual spending on an overall basis is covered off by voted funds and other authorized funds. Individual programs may have surpluses or deficits that contribute to the bottom line positive balance.

	Estimated	Other Authorizations	Total	Actual	Variance
Full-time Equivalents (FTEs)					
Total	**3,837**	**0**	**3,837**	**3,749**	**88**
Ministry Capital Expenditures					
Information Systems	10,240	111	10,351	12,292	(1,941)
Other	13,952	955	14,907	11,981	2,926
Total	**24,192**	**1,066**	**25,258**	**24,273**	**985**
Consolidated Capital Plan Expenditures[4]					
Courthouses	5,800	746	6,546	4,996	1,550
Total	**5,800**	**746**	**6,546**	**4,996**	**1,550**
Other Financing Transactions (Net Disbursements)[5]					
Interest on Trusts and Deposits	957	184	1,141	1,141	0
Treaty Settlement and Implementation Costs	3,973	0	3,973	2,311	1,662
Total	**4,930**	**184**	**5,114**	**3,452**	**1,662**

[4] On October 11, 2001, the Ministry of Attorney General received approval to carry over $0.746 million in its Capital Expenditure Limit from 2000/01 to 2001/02, increasing its limit to $6.546 million.

Source: Public Accounts 2001/02

Appendices

Appendix I: Glossary

Administrative Justice Project: A review of the administrative justice system within B.C. is being undertaken with the objectives of ensuring that: administrative agencies meet the needs of the people they serve; their administrative processes are open and transparent; their mandates are current and relevant; and government fulfils its obligations by providing the legislative and policy framework administrative agencies require to carry out their mandates effectively.

Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR): When the term ADR first appeared, it meant 'alternative dispute resolution'; however, in recent years it has come to mean 'appropriate dispute resolution'. The change in language reflects a change in perspective. Dispute resolution options are not alternatives to, or opposed to, the litigation process. Rather, dispute resolution options range along a continuum from collaborative, non-binding processes like mediation to binding arbitration and litigation processes. People attempting to resolve disputes can consider the range of dispute resolution options and select the one most appropriate to the situation.

Alternate Measures (AM): AM diverts low-risk offenders from the traditional court system to a process that allows more personal restitution to victims and communities. AM programs for adult offenders are managed by the ministry through contracts with community agencies.

CORNET: An electronic, integrated offender-management information system.

Criminal Case Flow Management (CCFM): CCFM is a court reform developed and led by the Provincial Court judiciary with the goals of ensuring that cases are concluded in a more timely and just manner, with greater certainty in scheduling, and that Crown and defence have had meaningful discussions both at an early phase of the process and continuing throughout. Rules applicable to cases in British Columbia have been created under the Criminal Code of Canada and have been in effect since 1999.

Dangerous Offender (DO): An offender who has been convicted of a serious personal injury offence and who is usually sentenced to an indeterminate period of incarceration with periodic parole review.

Electoral Boundaries Commission: The function of the commission is to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the area, boundaries and names of the electoral districts of B.C.

Facilitated Planning Meeting: A voluntary, facilitated meeting that focuses on preparing a plan to ensure the safety of children who have been apprehended by social service agencies but whose parents are contesting the apprehension. The goal of the meeting, and its preceding orientation session, is to resolve as many issues as possible in a collaborative manner and reduce the number of cases going to contested hearings.

Family Justice Counsellors (FJCs): FJCs are available in many areas to help families needing assistance with separation and divorce issues like child custody, access and guardianship, child and spousal support.

FIGARO: An electronic, integrated licensing and financial management information system covering security programs, gaming audit and film classification areas.

High-Risk Offender: Offenders who are defined as high-risk are those who have been assessed by correctional and probation officers as presenting a high risk to re-offend. By screening offenders against factors that are predictive of re-offending, Corrections Branch identifies the offenders who require the most intervention (i.e., higher frequency of supervision and more programming).

Integrated Justice: Seamless information sharing between independent agencies in the justice system.

Judicial Compensation Committee (JCC)/Judicial Justice of the Peace Compensation Committee (JJCC): The JCC is an independent committee appointed every three years in accordance with the *Provincial Court Act* to review and make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on salaries, pensions and other benefits provided to Provincial Court judges in B.C. The JJCC is a separate committee that makes recommendations on compensation for Judicial Justices of the Peace.

JUSTIN: An electronic, integrated case-tracking computer system used throughout the province, with links to all members of the criminal justice system (police, Crown, judiciary, courts and corrections).

Knowledge Management: The strategic use of information and knowledge resources to an organization's best advantage.

Legal Year of Service/Legal Person Year: A legal year of service is defined as 1,465 hours of work performed by a lawyer, legal assistant, law student or researcher doing work directly related to legal services to government.

Management Information System (MIS): A computer system that presents high-level summary information to assist management decision-making.

Nisga'a Final Agreement Adjustment Project: The Treaty Negotiations Office operates an adjustment project for workers or small business owners who are negatively impacted as a direct result of the Nisga'a Final Agreement and are not eligible for other provincial, federal or Nisga'a Lisims government programs.

Pay Equity Task Force: An independent review of pay equity in B.C. is being conducted to determine the extent to which current Canadian models of pay equity legislation are an effective and efficient response to sex-based wage disparity in the private sector.

PRIME BC: An electronic records management system that will link all police department information across the province and improve the ability of police to solve major crime.

Protection Orders: A protection order is an order containing a condition (e.g., "no contact") that affords safety and security to a specified (named) person or persons. A protection order may be made in Provincial Family Court, Criminal Court or Supreme Court.

Appendix II:
Other Official Ministry and Justice Information

The following list of Internet Web site addresses are justice-related sites where additional information can be found on a range of topics. The names of the organizations and a brief description of the contents of the sites are provided. Links to other Internet sites are given for reader convenience and do not constitute endorsement of the information at those sites. The Ministry of Attorney General accepts no responsibility for material contained in any site that is linked to the official ministry Internet site, or in any other listed site.

http://www.gov.bc.ca/ag/
Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations
Contains information about programs and services and key ministry initiatives such as the Civil Liability Review, the Administrative Justice Project and the Report of the Task Force on Pay Equity. There are also links to current news releases and to ministry branches and departments.

http://www.gov.bc.ca/tno/
Treaty Negotiations Office
A direct link to Treaty Negotiations Office programs and services. Provides access to key initiative reports such as the Nisga'a Implementation Report and the Tripartite Working Group Report.

http://www.gov.bc.ca/tno/links/
Links to other sites related to treaty negotiations.

http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/abc
Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABCs)
Links to ABCs, including the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal, the Children's Commission, the Expropriation Compensation Board and the Public Guardian and Trustee.

http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/dro/
Ministry of Attorney General — Dispute Resolution Office (DRO)
The DRO develops and promotes non-adversarial dispute resolution options within the justice system. Options such as mediation can provide an opportunity for the early settlement of disputes and are less expensive than litigation. This site includes links to publications on dispute resolution and mediation, alternative dispute resolution policy, regulations, program descriptions and evaluations, mediation organizations and the B.C. Mediator Roster Society.

http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/family-justice
Ministry of Attorney General — Family Justice Services
This site provides general information about issues of interest to B.C. couples who have separated or who are about to separate, as well as to guardians and other family members, such as grandparents, who may be involved in making decisions about the family and its future. The site is organized by topic and pull-down menus for easy selection. Topics include: basics of family law (e.g., custody, access and support); dispute resolution options (e.g., mediation, legal advice, court, family safety); programs and people who can help (e.g., family justice counsellors, Parenting After Separation Program, family maintenance enforcement, Legal Services Society); and, other resources (e.g., legal terms, court rules and forms, office contact information).

http://www.gov.bc.ca/pssg/
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Provides links to ministry key initiatives, latest news, programs and services, ministry branches and departments and an extensive reports and publications list.

http://www.legis.gov.bc.ca/
Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
Includes information on current and previous legislative sessions, legislation and MLAs. Also provides a link to an on-line tour of the Legislative Chamber.

http://www.courts.gov.bc.ca/
B.C. Superior Courts
Provides the public and the media with timely access to reasons for judgments and information on the B.C. superior courts. Also provides links to the B.C. superior courts judiciary, the Court of Appeal of B.C., the Supreme Court of B.C., the Court of Appeal reasons for judgment database, and the Supreme Court reasons for judgment database.

http://www.provincialcourt.bc.ca
B.C. Provincial Court
As the first level of court in British Columbia, the court's jurisdiction includes criminal, family, child protection, small claims, and traffic cases. This site provides a description of court, judicial officers and council. It also contains links to news and references, a judgment database, criminal and youth matters, family matters, small claims matters, traffic and bylaw matters and a court locations map.

http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/bcstats
Revised Statutes British Columbia
Provides links to all B.C. legislation.

http://www.bcli.org/
B.C. Law Institute
The B.C. Law Institute is a society incorporated to promote the clarification and simplification of the law and its adaptation to modern social needs, promote improvement of the administration of justice and respect for the rule of law, and promote and carry out scholarly legal research. This site contains information about the institute, publications, legal resources and B.C. law reform.

http://www.pep.bc.ca/
Provincial Emergency Program (PEP)
Provides information about PEP, hazard preparedness and planning, emergency management and disaster financial assistance.

http://www.dir.gov.bc.ca/
BC Government Directory
A searchable directory of all B.C. government offices; search by person, organization or organizational unit.

http://www.dir.gov.bc.ca/
Intergovernmental On-Line Information Kiosk
Part of the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, this site makes information available to the public on programs and initiatives, including "Government On-Line," the Government of Canada's initiative to provide information and services on the Internet by 2005.

http://www.jibc.bc.ca/
Justice Institute of B.C.
The institute is a training organization that targets improved justice and public safety services and safer communities. This site provides course and conference listings and an on-line student learning centre.

http://www.vcn.bc.ca/lssbc/
Legal Services Society (LSS)
This site provides descriptions of LSS services and access to publications arranged by topic.

http://www.mediator-roster.bc.ca/
B.C. Mediator Roster Society
The roster is a list of qualified mediators available to lawyers, judges, government agencies and any other organization or individual who wishes to resolve disputes using mediation. This site provides information about the roster, rules of mediation, events and a discussion forum.

http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/
B.C. Stats
B.C. Stats is the central statistical agency of British Columbia, providing statistical products, services and expertise. This site contains links to statistical bureaus in other Canadian provinces and many other countries.

http://www.statcan.ca/
Statistics Canada
This site provides Canadian statistics on justice and crime, victims, suspects, criminals, police and the courts.

http://www.sgc.gc.ca/
Solicitor General, Government of Canada
This site contains information about the Solicitor General portfolio, including national security, policing and law enforcement, corrections, the National Parole Board, public safety and Aboriginal policing.

http://canada.justice.gc.ca/
Department of Justice Canada
This site provides information about the department's mission and portfolio, including criminal justice policy at the federal level.

http://www.crime-prevention.org
National Crime Prevention Centre
This is a federal government site containing information about the crime prevention business network, projects, programs and services and publications. It presents the National Strategy on Community Safety and Crime Prevention, which is aimed at reducing crime and victimization by addressing their root causes through a social development approach.

http://laws.justice.gc.ca
Criminal Code of Canada — Department of Justice Canada
This site provides a searchable list of Canada's Consolidated Statutes and Regulations, including the Criminal Code.

http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/sup/index.html
Child Support Guidelines — Department of Justice Canada
This site describes child support laws in effect since May 1997 and provides links to related news, general information and provincial and territorial enforcement programs.

http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/
Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)
This site provides information about the RCMP and their programs and services and provides links to related news.

http://www.acjnet.org/
Access to Justice Network (ACJNet)
This is an electronic community that brings together people, information, and educational resources on justice and legal issues of interest to Canadians. ACJNet is dedicated to making law and justice resources available to all Canadians in both official languages.